



News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

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Governor Ehrlich, National Speakers Slated For Maryland's 1st Reentry Symposium on Oct. 24 *Symposium to be held at the Senate Office Building in Annapolis*

BALTIMORE, MD (October 20, 2005) -- **Secretary Mary Ann Saar**, of the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, will kickoff Maryland's first Reentry Symposium dedicated to offender reentry on Monday, Oct. 24 in the Senate Office Building, Budget & Taxation Hearing Room, 11 College Ave., Annapolis. **Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.**, will join Secretary Saar at the podium and speak promptly at 9:30 a.m.

The event will run from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Secretary Saar will interview William "Pete" Duncan, who is one of the featured former inmates in the documentary, "Omar and Pete" by Tod Lending. The documentary will be shown by Maryland Public Television at the conclusion of the Symposium. Other featured speakers will include two national experts in the areas of corrections and offender reentry:

Jeremy Travis, president of John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York, and **Dr. Ed Latessa** of the University of Cincinnati, will speak at 10:15 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. respectively.

Sponsored by the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services and the Abell Foundation, the event will provide an information-sharing forum where legislators and key stakeholders, such as policy makers and advocates, can hear directly from the experts and their peers about the national shift occurring in corrections agencies across the country in support of offender reentry strategies. The symposium will also include an exhibit hall featuring government and nonprofit agencies that provide reentry services, including Alternative Directions, Inc. and the Montgomery County Pre-Release Center.

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